

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment, Claims 15-56 and 65-66 have been cancelled.

Restriction was required from among the following claim groups:

Group I: Claims 1-14 and 57-64, to a medical device;

Group II: Claims 18-21 and 40-56, to a method of manufacturing a stent;

Group III: Claims 22 and 23, to a method of securing a stent to a balloon; and

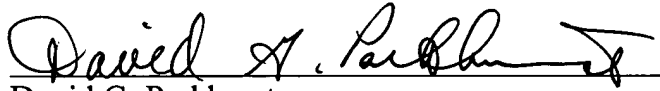
Group IV: Claims 15-17, 24-39 and 65-66, to a method of manufacturing a medical device.

Applicant elects Group I, directed to Claims 1-14 and 57-64, to a medical device, for examination, without traverse.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, an early favorable consideration of the application on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By: 
David G. Parkhurst
Reg. No. 29,422

DGP/rvw
Encls.: Return Postcard

Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696
Customer No. 24201
16442.1